

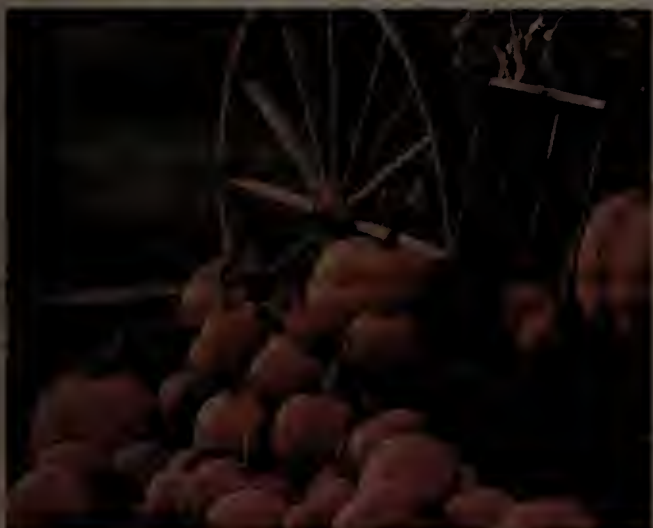
Vol. XXXVII October 17, 2008

## 本期舢舨中文



### 羅絲.甘迺迪綠色通道 華埠盛大揭幕

~見第二版



### 萬聖節的由來

~見第五版



### 華美福利會青年北極 驚嘆之旅

~見第七版

## The Foreclosure Crisis and Asian Americans

By Christopher Rogacz

The foreclosure crisis – the pinprick that burst the financial bobble to catalyze the ongoing global financial meltdown, has yet to reach its end, as home values continue to decline, leaving many families owning a mortgage that is worth more than the house itself.

While the bursting of the bubble, and its aftershocks, are likely to be felt by everyone, new data, according to the National Coalition for Asian Pacific American Community Development (National CAPACD), is disproportionately affecting some groups, including Asian Americans, more than others.

"Foreclosures are affecting all of America's neighborhoods, but in particular the Asian American families who are part of those communities," said Lisa Hasegawa, Executive Director of National CAPACD. "The Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008, signed in July 2008 by President Bush, was meant to provide relief for the vulnerable, but we are concerned that Asian Americans have not been a priority in that relief effort."

Hasegawa continued: "The Asian American Pacific Islander community has been mostly ignored in economic discussions, even though their contributions have helped to promote America's long-standing prosperity. The sudden downturn of the housing and community development sectors has had a disproportionate affect on AAPIs. Lack of awareness, outreach and funding to support our community could have a devastating, long-term affect on our American way of life."

Though Congress has taken some steps to deal with the crisis, criticism remains. The \$700 billion bailout, approved by Congress was designed to increase liquidity in the financial system. A major problem facing the economy is the freezing of credit, in which banks, not knowing who may be the next to go under, refuse to lend money to one another – as well as to businesses – for fear that they won't get the money back. The hope is that the

government can use the \$700 billion to buy bad debt – mortgages that will default, if they have not already, making the bailed out firms less risky.

Many had called for any bailout plan to include direct aid to homeowners facing foreclosure, including the ability to renegotiate the terms of a mortgage. Instead, the act calls for the development of "a plan to mitigate foreclosures" and to "encourage servicers of mortgages to modify loans." The Treasury Department has yet to outline details of such a plan.

Lisa Hasegawa says that "Congress has sidestepped their duty while the economy sideswipes America's working families. Millions of American homeowners across the country, including thousands of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, continue to be in jeopardy of losing their share of the American Dream.

"We urge Congress to hold field hearings to better understand the plight of homeowners nationwide, invest in financial counseling programs for at-risk communities in Asian and Pacific Islander languages, and establish an oversight board for this recovery package that takes into account the perspective of minority communities."

Here are some facts about homeownership among Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, and how the foreclosure crisis might effect these communities.

Homeownership rates for AAPIs continue to lag behind the national average of 67.8%. Among Asian Americans 53.2% live in owner-occupied housing. Among Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders, the figure is even lower at 45.5%.

The 2003 Department of Housing and Urban Development report, "Discrimination in Metropolitan Housing Markets: Phase 2 – Asians and Pacific Islanders," documented the fact that AAPIs face discrimination at levels comparable to or higher than other minority groups when

CONTINUED PAGE 3

## New survey shows Asian Americans could play key role in election

Among Asian American voters, many are supporting presidential candidate Barack Obama, but another sizable portion remains undecided – a development that could set the stage for Asian Americans to play a pivotal role in the outcome of the election, according to a new national survey released today.

This groundbreaking study, released at a Washington, D.C., press conference this morning, was conducted by researchers from four leading universities: Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey; University of California, Berkeley (UC Berkeley); University of California, Riverside (UC Riverside); and University of Southern California (USC).

The researchers' 2008 National Asian American Survey (NAAS) shows that 41 percent of Asian Americans are likely to favor Obama, while 24 percent support John McCain. In battleground states, where either candidate could win on Election Day, Obama leads with 43 percent of Asian Americans supporting him and 22 percent favoring McCain.

Researchers point out that a key finding of the study is the high proportion of undecided Asian American likely voters: 34 percent. Among the general population, national polls conducted since the major party conventions show that undecided voters are approximately 8 percent of the electorate.

Karthick Ramakrishnan, an associate professor of political science at UC Riverside, points out that "with such a high proportion of undecided voters, Asian Americans are a critical source of potential votes for either candidate in the final weeks of the campaign." "Even in battleground states and among those Asian Americans who were interviewed in the second half of September, more than 30 percent were undecided between Barack Obama and John McCain," he says.

CONTINUED PAGE 3





## ah-Lin!

by Lillian Chan



10-16-08

www.lillianchan.com/ahlin

**New Americans Agenda Meeting**

Three months ago, (July 9th, 2008) Governor Patrick signed Executive Order 503 launching the New Americans Agenda (NAA). The NAA is a year long planning initiative, which aims to better integrate refugees and immigrants into the economic and civic life of the Commonwealth. Over the next year, the MA Office for Refugees and Immigrants (MORI) and the Governor's Advisory Council for Refugees and Immigrants (GACRI) will develop a series of policy recommendations on integration challenges and solutions.

The information for these recommendations will come from a series of public meetings across the state in addition to research, interviews with experts, and input from state agencies. These community hearings and meetings will

be coordinated by the Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition (MIRA) in partnership with ten local grassroots organizations. The public meetings provide an opportunity for individuals in local communities to share with the Governor's Advisory Council and each other their vision of what it would mean to become a more welcoming Commonwealth, obstacles to integration, and possible solutions. Successful integration of immigrants and refugees is vital to the civic health of the Commonwealth as well as its ongoing economic growth. These public meetings are a way for community groups and individuals to provide valuable input on this important topic.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, October 20th, 2008 5:30-7:30pm at Chelsea High School, 299 Everett Ave in Chelsea.

**Chinatown Master Plan nominations due today**

Nomination forms for the Chinatown Master Plan 2010 oversight committee are due today, Friday, October 17th. If you have indicated your interest in serving on the oversight committee, please submit a nomination form by the due date. If you have any questions about the Chinatown Master Plan 2010 or the nomination process, please feel free to email or call Chinatown Gateway Coalition coordinator Kye Liang at 617-357-4499. For more information about the project scope and purpose, please visit the Chinatown Gateway Coalition's website at: <http://chinatown-gateway.org>.

**Correction**

In the last issue of the Sampan, published October 3, 2008, we printed an article written by Lydia Lowe

discussing the impact of race on the election in the 2nd Suffolk District, in which Sonia Chang-Diaz narrowly defeated incumbent Diane Wilkerson for her party's nomination. The article was run as a standard news article, when it should have run as an opinion piece. While the facts in the article are sound, the opinions expressed are those of the author, not of Sampan or of the Asian American Civic Association.

**Volunteer Fair**

On Saturday, November 1, from 1:00 to 3:00 pm in Boston Chinatown (location to be determined), Asian American community organizations will hold a fair to educate potential volunteers. Presented by the Asian American Resource Workshop. For information, call 617-426-5313.

SAMPAN  
A Publication of the AACA[www.sampan.org](http://www.sampan.org)87 TYLER STREET, BOSTON, MA 02111; (617) 426-9492  
FAX: (617) 482-2316**English Section:**Editor, reporter, and layout: Christopher Rogacz  
[EnglishEditor@sampan.org](mailto:EnglishEditor@sampan.org)

Contributors: Lillian Chan (comic); Michael Tow (Financial writer); Cole Liberator (Health writer) Cody Yiu (writer); Lydia Lowe (writer)

**Chinese Section:**Editor, reporter, and layout: Cody Yiu  
[ChineseEditor@sampan.org](mailto:ChineseEditor@sampan.org)  
Translation: Gong Quan Chen, Anna Tse, Ying X. Lu**Marketing and Advertising:**Marketing Manager, Ad seller and designer:  
Yu-Ting Liu  
[ads@sampan.org](mailto:ads@sampan.org)

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Subscriptions: \$30/year (3rd class mail); \$60/year (1st class mail). Direct requests to Yu-Ting Liu, Ext. 206./Advertising: \$12 per column inch; \$170 per quarter page; \$300 per half page. Surcharges apply for translation and/or typesetting.

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**Election Day!**

Tuesday, November 4. Voters will choose candidates for national and state seats. They will also be asked to vote on several

ballot measures in Massachusetts. For information on Ballot Questions, visit [www.sec.state.ma.us/election/election08/pip08idx.htm](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/election/election08/pip08idx.htm)

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## OPINION

# Why We Should Vote No on Question 1

By Lydia Lowe

Most voters know that November 4 will be the presidential election, but many have still not heard about an important question on the ballot. Question 1 on the November ballot is a binding referendum that asks us eliminate the 5.3 percent state income tax by 2010. This would result in elimination of \$12.7 billion of state revenue, or about 40 percent of the state's budget.

In return, Question 1 proponents argue that voters will have extra money in their pockets. But only the wealthiest sector of taxpayers would stand to gain from this proposal. The vast majority of working class families would save very little, while experts estimate that some key human services could be slashed by as much as 70 percent, since some parts of the state budget cannot be cut. Many Chinese immigrants are low-income and pay little or no state income tax, but do receive important state services

that would be slashed or lost.

In fact, income tax is the most progressive way for government to raise revenue. Sales tax, the state lottery, and property tax place a higher burden on working families and the poor. But these taxes and other fees would need to be raised to make up for the loss of income if Question 1 goes through. Furthermore, the U.S. Census Bureau says Massachusetts residents pay less of their income for state and local public purposes than residents of 35 other states.

What are some of the services that we need from our state budget? State-funded health care, affordable housing, road maintenance, repair of school buildings, law enforcement, food inspection, workplace safety, care for troubled children, and much more.

State local aid funds also go to support city budgets, which pay for schools, public safety, street cleaning, trash removal, and other daily services.

When a similar question was on the ballot six years ago, 44 percent of voters voted in favor with very little campaigning. This year, many voters are angry at government because of the huge \$700 billion bailout of the banks and lending institutions. But expressing our anger by eliminating the state income tax would only hurt our own communities more!

That is why a broad coalition of business, labor, civic and community groups is rallying to defeat the idea.

So, don't forget to vote on November 4th and vote NO on Question One, at the bottom of your ballot.

The polls will be open from 7 am to 8 pm. To find out your polling place, call CPA 617-357-4499 or go to [www.wheredoivotema.com](http://www.wheredoivotema.com)

## FROM PAGE 1

The multi-ethnic, multi-lingual survey of more than 4,000 Asian Americans likely to vote in the election was conducted from Aug. 18 to Sept. 26. It is the most comprehensive survey to date of the political views of Asian Americans, with interviews conducted in English, Cantonese, Mandarin, Hindi, Japanese, Korean, Tagalog and Vietnamese.

Janelle Wong, an associate professor of political science at USC, says that "most national polls cannot report the preferences of these likely voters because they do not interview in multiple languages, and the number of interviews they conduct among Asian Americans is very small."

By drawing on the knowledge of political scientists with expertise in survey research and ethnic politics, and with support from several foundations, the NAAS data provide insight about Asian Americans as a whole, the researchers say, as well as about their six largest ethnic subgroups: Asian Indians, Chinese, Filipinos, Japanese, Koreans and Vietnamese.

The research shows that support for the candidates does vary by Asian American ethnic groups. Among those who have made up their mind on a candidate, two-thirds of Vietnamese Americans support McCain; Japanese Americans, Chinese Americans, and Indian Americans support Obama by more than a three-to-one ratio; and Korean and Filipino Americans who are likely voters also support Obama over McCain, but the gap is much smaller, with ratios less than 1.4 to 1.

Many of the differences can be attributed to party affiliation, according to the researchers. Vietnamese Americans identify with the Republican Party over the Democratic Party by nearly a two-to-one ratio, while the opposite is true for other ethnic groups such as Indian Americans and Chinese Americans.

Still, as UC Berkeley associate professor of political science Taeku Lee says, "A very large number of Asian Americans are non-partisan. The Asian American vote is very much up for grabs: Non-partisans who see either the Democratic or Republi-

can party as closer to them on issues that matter to them are much likelier to vote for that party's candidate."

Among the survey's other findings:

The majority of Asian Americans who voted in the primary supported Hillary Clinton over Obama by nearly 2 to 1; but 59 percent of Clinton supporters now plan to vote for Obama and 10 percent support McCain.

About 80 percent of likely voters who are Asian American list the economy as one of the most important problems the nation faces, followed by the war in Iraq. On both issues, there are strongly divided opinions between Obama and McCain supporters. "Even as the Iraq war has receded from the headlines as concerns about the economy have become more prominent, the war still plays a powerful role in the Asian American choice for president," says Jane Junn, an associate professor of political science at Rutgers.

Overall, 32 percent of all Asian Americans identify themselves as Democrats; 14 percent as Republicans; 19 percent as independents; and 35 percent as nonpartisan, not fitting into any of the major party categories.

One third of Asian American citizens get informed about politics from Asian-language television and newspapers, and more than one in four (28 percent) say they would use Asian-language ballot materials.

Next to Latinos, Asian Americans are the fastest growing share of the U.S. population. Currently, they comprise 5 percent of the population and, according to the researchers, will likely play a significant role in battleground states such as Virginia, Nevada and Washington, where they account for 5 percent or more of the population. Even in states such as Colorado, Ohio and Florida, where they are less numerous, Asian Americans may provide the margin of victory, the researchers said.

The full NAAS report, including information on the survey methodology used, will be posted online at: <http://www.naasurvey.com/>

## FROM PAGE 1

searching for housing.

According to research conducted by the National Association of Realtors, the use of sub-prime loans among Asian Americans grew by 181 percent from 2004 to 2005. As a result, many borrowers are placed in risky mortgage products. A study conducted by the National Community Reinvestment Coalition found that middle or upper levels do not shield minorities from receiving a poorly underwritten, high-cost loan.

In specific metropolitan statistical areas, including in Massachusetts, Asian American borrowers were significantly more likely to receive a high cost loan than White borrowers.

22 percent of loans to Asian Americans and 33 percent of loans to Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders were high cost loans.

Out of \$144.4 billion in all loans made to Asian American, \$27.2 billion were high cost loans. It is estimated that almost \$6.5 billion in loans are at risk of foreclosure in AAPI communities nationwide.

Few banks offer linguistically and culturally competent information or services for AAPI immigrant communities. In ethnic enclaves, this is less true, including

in Boston's Chinatown, where the local branches of Bank of America and Sovereign, for example, each have information in Chinese, as well as Chinese-speaking members of staff. Cathay Bank, which provides similarly linguistically appropriate banking services, also has a presence in Chinatown. However, overall, borrowers with limited understanding of credit and financial institutions and limited credit histories can be penalized or treated inequitably by traditional mortgage lending processes even if they may be creditworthy. These are still very few linguistically and culturally competent housing counselors and financial education programs that specifically target diverse AAPI communities.

This economic slowdown, we are beginning to learn, will not end quickly. There are major system-wide problems that caused this bubble and its eventual bursting. Addressing them will require more than tweaking the tax code here and there, more than adding regulations. A cultural change, several commentators have noted, will be necessary. Americans will have to reacquire themselves to a world without easy credit, with spending within one's means, saving, and easy money without risk.



Despite the rain, people showed up in large numbers to participate in the Quincy Medical Center Cancer Walk on September 28. So far this year, QMC raised over \$193,000 (and still counting) for the Marie A Curry Fund to benefit cancer screenings, education and medical equipment at the Quincy Medical Center. Photo by Lola Tom

## Harvard China Care Benefit Dinner

As part of its many endeavors to improve the lives of orphans in China, Harvard China Care will host its Third Annual Fall Benefit and Silent Auction on November 12, featuring award-winning documentary filmmaker Thomas Lennon.

Few college organizations can say their work directly impacts the lives of thousands of orphans in China; for Harvard China Care (HCC), an undergraduate student group that has to date raised nearly \$200,000 for special-needs orphans, making that claim is no exaggeration. HCC supports the basic operational costs and surgery requests for orphanages and children's homes throughout China, serving for four years as the primary sponsor for Saiqi Orphanage, a private orphanage single-handedly run by one woman. HCC's fundraising also supports an extensive summer internship program that sends volunteers from Harvard to work at orphanages around China, as well as domestic programs provided at no charge for the greater Boston community including bi-weekly playgroups and mentoring events for children adopted from China and their families.

In collaboration with The Jenzabar Foundation, HCC's most recent project provides direct funding toward the creation and operational costs of a China Care Children's Home in Baoji, Shanxi Province, which opened last November and provides care to the smallest and weakest children from surrounding welfare institutions. Located on the fourth floor of the Baoji Social Welfare Institute,

the home has already provided care to more than 40 infants, and five have been or are in the process of being adopted. All proceeds from this year's Fall Benefit will go toward this initiative.

Last year's Fall Benefit, which featured a fashion show hosted by internationally renowned designer Anne Namba, raised over \$76,000, and HCC is excited to take this year's benefit in a new direction. This year, the black-tie charity event will take place on Wednesday, November 12, 2008, in the beautiful and historic Lenox Hotel in Boston. The event will feature distinguished documentary filmmaker Thomas Lennon, winner of an Academy Award, a duPont-Columbia award, two George Foster Peabody and Writers' Guild awards, and two national Emmys. In recent years his work has focused on health, leading him to launch a nationwide campaign to raise awareness of AIDS in China. In his Oscar-winning documentary *The Blood of Yingzhou District*, Lennon highlighted the heartbreaking—and unnecessary—suffering endured by orphans due to misinformation.

The Fall Benefit will also feature a silent auction with items ranging from jewelry and gift certificates to local businesses, to hotel packages, to artwork created by the very children we support.

For more information about this event and Harvard China Care, please visit our website at <http://www.hcs.harvard.edu/~care/08dinner.html> or contact Sherri Geng at [care@hcs.harvard.edu](mailto:care@hcs.harvard.edu).



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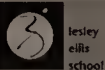
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## Tufts Neighborhood Service Fund (TNSF) Request for Proposals

The Tufts Neighborhood Service Fund is soliciting requests for financial support. Charitable, tax-exempt, community-based organizations located in Boston's Chinatown or serving Chinatown residents are eligible to apply. An eligible organization must be able to demonstrate that members of the Tufts University community are involved with the organization as volunteers. Interested parties should contact Community Relations at (617) 627-3780 or visit <http://ur.tufts.edu/community/> for an application. Applications are due on November 24, 2008. Awards will be announced before the New Year.

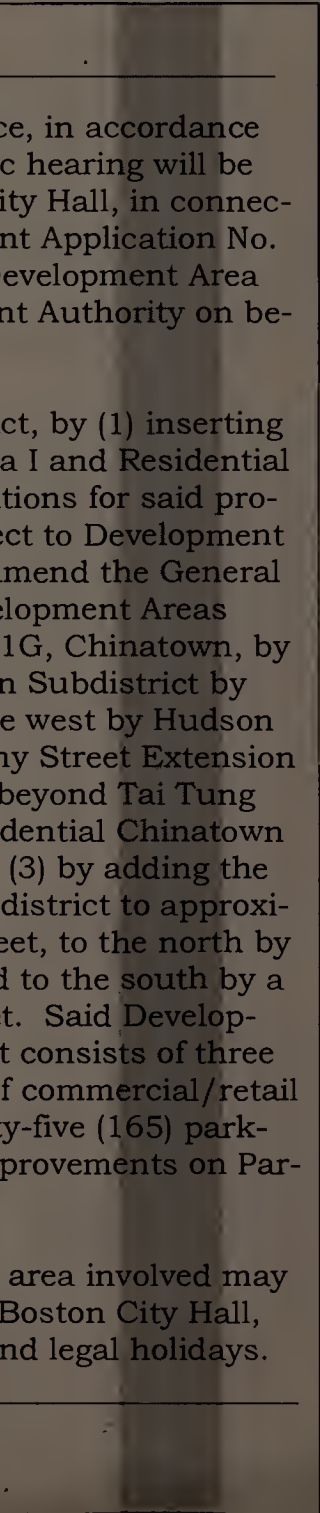
## ZONING HEARING

The Zoning Commission of the City of Boston hereby gives notice, in accordance with Chapter 665 of the Acts of 1956, as amended, that a public hearing will be held on November 5, 2008, at 9:00 AM, in Room 900, Boston City Hall, in connection with Text Amendment Application No. 397, Map Amendment Application No. 564 and an application for the Development Plan for Planned Development Area No. 73, Parcel 24, Chinatown, filed by the Boston Redevelopment Authority on behalf of Parcel 24, LLC.

Said text application would amend Article 43, Chinatown District, by (1) inserting new references to the proposed Residential Chinatown PDA Area I and Residential Chinatown PDA Area II; (2) establishing height and FAR regulations for said proposed PDA Areas; (3) amend the section of Article 43 with respect to Development Plan Approval for Creation of Affordable Housing and; (4) also amend the General Design and Environmental Impact Standards for Planned Development Areas with respect to wind. Said map application would amend Map 1G, Chinatown, by (1) changing the existing boundary of the Residential Chinatown Subdistrict by adding approximately 65,422 square feet of land bounded to the west by Hudson Street, to the north by Kneeland Street, to the east by the Albany Street Extension and to the south by a point on Hudson Street across from and beyond Tai Tung Street ; (2) creating Residential Chinatown PDA Area I and Residential Chinatown PDA Area II, within the Chinatown Residential Subdistrict; and (3) by adding the designation "D", indicating a Planned Development Area overlying district to approximately 65,422 square feet bounded to the west by Hudson Street, to the north by Kneeland Street, to the east by the Albany Street Extension and to the south by a point on Hudson Street across from and beyond Tai Tung Street. Said Development Plan for Parcel 24 proposes a mixed-use development that consists of three hundred twenty-five (325) residential units, 5,500 square feet of commercial/retail space, 6,000 square feet of community space, one hundred sixty-five (165) parking spaces in a below-grade parking garage, and related site improvements on Parcel 24.

Copies of the Development Plan, the petitions and a map of the area involved may be viewed at the office of the Zoning Commission, Room 953C, Boston City Hall, between 9 AM and 5 PM any day except Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays.

For the Commission,  
Jeffrey M. Hampton, Secretary



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# What should I do in this Financial Crisis? (Part II)

By Michael C. Tow

While writing of this article the Dow Jones Industrial Average is at 8577, down 39% from its high of 14164 in October 2007. Many people have lost a lot of money in their investment accounts, college savings accounts and retirement and 401k accounts. Now is a very uncertain and scary time. Most economists say that we are in a recession. A recession is defined as being a period of two quarters of negative GDP growth. An average recession lasts about 10 months and protracted recessions have lasted two years. What are some things that we can do to protect ourselves and our families from a prolonged economic downturn?

This is a time to be careful with your spending. Maybe the impact of the recession hasn't hit you, yet but in all likelihood it will. Here is a chance to prepare yourself before it does impact you. Reduce your spending and focus more on savings. Think twice about big purchases and cut out the impulse buying. If you have outstanding credit card debt, now is the time to go into overdrive to pay them down. Spending habits are very hard to break, but now during these tough economic times is as a good a time to start.

Build up your emergency fund. An emergency fund has 6 months or more of total expenses saved in the bank. This way if your company gets downsized and you lose your job, you and your family will have a nest egg to fall back on. With an adequate emergency fund, it allows you to have a lot more flexibility and options. If you get laid off, with an adequate emergency fund, you won't be forced to take the first offer that comes your way. If the recession is longer than expected then an adequate emergency fund will provide

that bridge until you find a new job. The best case scenario is that you weather these tough times relatively unscathed and don't have to touch any of your emergency funds.

Now is also the time to sit down with your Certified Financial Planner™ and revisit your financial goals and plans. Make sure with the significant pullback in the markets that your retirement and college plans for your children are still on track. Have him or her review your investments to make sure the asset allocation mix is correct and is suitable for the continued turmoil that may lie ahead.

The economic situation dominated the final presidential debate as the most discussed topic. Barack Obama called this the worst economic times since the Great Depression. With all this doom and gloom we have to remind ourselves that the economy goes in cycles. We have good times and bad times. When we are in the bad times, we need to make sure we prepare ourselves in whatever way we can to get through these tough times. There is a light at the end of the tunnel. It may seem like its miles away, but we will get through it together.

If you have a topic that you would like me to discuss in a future article please email me at [mtow@newbostonfinancial.com](mailto:mtow@newbostonfinancial.com).

*CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™, Michael Tow is President of New Boston Financial. He is a registered representative of, and offers securities and advisory services through Commonwealth Financial Network- a member firm of FINRA/SIPC and a Registered Investment Adviser. He is located at 58 Harvard St, Brookline and can be reached at 617-734-4400 or [www.newbostonfinancial.com](http://www.newbostonfinancial.com)*

# BCNC Receives Grant for Early Education

Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center received a \$5,000 grant from Children's Trust Fund (CTF) of Massachusetts to fund a parenting education and support program at the Acorn Center for Early Education and Care.

The program will support Asian American families with children ages birth through 6 years olds enrolled in the childcare center. For information about the program, contact Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center at (617) 635-5129.

CTF awarded grants to 35 community-based organizations statewide to fund parenting education and support programs. These programs help mothers and fathers increase their knowledge about parenting and child development and develop their own community-based support networks. Last year, approximately 750 parents and 950 children benefited

from programs supported by CTF grants.

"All parents love their children and want what's best for them," says Suzin Bartley, executive director of the Children's Trust Fund. "Parenting education programs help them achieve that goal by providing the tools to handle the tough job of being a mom or dad."

The Children's Trust Fund leads statewide efforts to prevent child abuse and neglect by supporting parents and strengthening families. It funds, evaluates, and promotes the work of over 100 community-based agencies and operates an online parenting information resource at [www.OneToughJob.org](http://www.OneToughJob.org). Supported by private, state, and federal funding, CTF invests in Massachusetts' most precious resource - children and their families. For more information, visit [www.mctf.org](http://www.mctf.org) or call (888) 775-4KID.

# The Fight against Teen Dating Violence

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month and the Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence, in addition to community involvement towards eliminating domestic violence among the Asian community, has also implemented a teen dating violence prevention curriculum to educate the younger generation of the threat and danger of domestic violence.

This curriculum entitled WAVE (Waves of Asian Voices Emerging), started as a collaborative effort with the Boston Asian Youth Essential Services in 2001 to address issues of domestic Violence and teen dating violence through culturally-appropriate dialogue with Asian/Immigrant youth. Since then, WAVE has ex-

panded into an interactive and educational curriculum called Teen Dating Violence for both Asian and Non-Asian Youth. The Teen Dating Violence (TDV) curriculum is divided into five sessions covering topics of: Teen Dating Violence 101; Healthy vs. Unhealthy Relationships; Gender and Media; Social Justice and Anti-oppression; and Train the Trainer: Teen Dating Violence.

As of 2008, ATASK along with TDV has worked with 18 schools and youth groups around Boston and reached over 400 students annually. Sarah O'Donnell, the Safe and Drug Free Schools Teacher Specialist for Boston Public Schools, is a critical partner in ATASK's success.

# Genotyping: A Golden Age Coming 'Round?

By Cole Liberator

It took 13 years and over a billion dollars to sequence the first genome. As of next year a person's genome could be obtained for \$5,000 and one day in the lab. Over the years the advances in the personal genetic market have been both dramatic and rapid. Costs and testing lengths have been slashed while sensitivity has been improved. The reason? Well there are two. The first, more humanitarian reason is that the unlocked genome offers the medical community the opportunity for some amazing advances. The second, less altruistic goal is that genes could be very profitable.

There are billions of genomes out there and thus billions of possible clients. As a result several companies have joined the movement to offer quick, affordable genomic information. Recently this "personalized genotyping" has been pioneered by companies such as 23andMe, Navigenics and deCODEme. These companies offer sequencing of parts of a person's DNA known as SNP's. They are single base pair mutations at a specific point in the genome and the most common type of genetic variation. The presence or absence of these SNPs has been linked to the prevalence of many types of disorders including obesity and certain types of cancer.

Most recently, companies have been moving beyond SNPs, instead identifying the entire genome for willing customers. A company located in Cambridge, Massachusetts called Knome has made its services available to the public. For a mere \$350,000 the company will sequence the whole genome down to the last nucleotide. And a more affordable complete genome could be just around the corner. Complete Genomics has just come out with the bold claim that they will be offering a \$5,000 genome in 2009. Although the initial clients they are targeting are pharmaceutical companies and biotechs, if successful we could see the first relatively affordable personalized genome ever.

What does this mean? The possibilities are awe-inspiring. Billions of dollars are being poured into research for cancer and Alzheimer's disease with limited results. We seem to have hit a crossroads in medicine where the entire approach to disease treatment might need to change. The cheap genome could do just this by ushering in a new era of preventative medicine.

Imagine being able to predict the likelihood of developing heart disease when you are just twenty years old. Would you still eat that cheeseburger from McDonald's? One day you could walk into your doctor's office, hand him a card with your genome on it, and he will be able to tailor a medical regimen specifically for you. With this power we can be more proactive about medicine and be able to treat more effectively and cheaply. Healthcare costs could drop as both life expectancy and life quality could go up.

But will this be the key to the fountain of youth? The short answer is "no".

While we may be able to prolong and improve life, preventative medicine will not cure diseases. But the genome will also help with this. By genotyping patients in clinical trials research institutes and companies will better understand why their drug worked in one person as opposed to another. And with that information they will be able to better target the population that will benefit from treatment. Research would make dramatic strides because they will understand their patient to a level that Hippocrates could only dream of.

Understanding is a funny thing, however. It is rarely omnipotent and that is absolutely true for the genome. While scientists have the key they are still unsure of what is behind the door. Only a fraction of our genes have been functionally identified. This means that the much of the full genome report will be meaningless. However it will only be a matter of time before new discoveries link new genes to new functions. How will patients handle this new data? In this technology age, information has never been so easily accessible. Will one paper that links lung cancer to an abnormality in chromosome 4 cause patients with that sequence to run to their doctors in fear? Is one finding enough to prove a connection? For many patients it might be even if some doctors may disagree.

In addition there are social and ethical aspects to address. If you know your genetic code how long will it be before your employer, healthcare company or life insurance provider also knows? This could mean higher healthcare premiums and life insurance policies for patients that are genetically predisposed to certain diseases.

The government has realized these issues and is already taking steps to regulate the flow of genetic information. The federal government passed the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act(GINA). This law helps to protect individuals from being discriminated against by companies based on their genetic code.

Individual states have gone further, taking steps to prevent the disbursement of genetic information to personal clients. But recent news out of California could be an indicator of things to come. In August the California government reversed its decision to prevent the selling of genetic information directly to consumers. Now Californians will have the opportunity to test their genetic mettle through two companies, Navigenics and 23andMe.

What California realized is that a new age is coming and anyone will be hard pressed to stop it. However whether this age will be described as "golden" or with a less flattering adjective will be largely dependent upon how we handle the new information. With great knowledge comes great responsibility on all our parts. The genetic code will certainly test this expression.

*Article funded through Asian Health Initiative of Tufts Medical Center*

"ATASK has been working to educate middle and high school students around teen dating violence for many years. In their "prevention" effort they teach students early warning signs of unhealthy relationships and what healthy, respectful relationships look like. At a time when there has been an "alarming increase" in domestic violence deaths, ATASK primary prevention education is working to keep our middle and high school students safe by recognizing "early warning signs of abuse". O'Donnell went on to comment "ATASK has conducted informative workshops for school staff so they may understand and respond to symptoms of teen dating violence. From classroom presentations to staff trainings, and student workshops, their work is invaluable in

violence prevention."

ATASK continues to expand its community involvement every year. Now with the issue of teen education in domestic violence gaining steam, Qingjian Shi, the Educator and Outreach coordinator of the TDV curriculum is excited that the issue of teen domestic violence is finally being recognized on a national scale: "Domestic Violence Education has been long overdue, and I am glad that schools are finally taking notice concerning the prevention of this serious matter." Linda Chin, President of ATASK also commented by stating: "I am pleased that ATASK is taking initiative in getting the younger generation involved – they are the future advocates in this fight to eliminate domestic violence."





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# High Home Heating Costs? There May Be Help

“We are facing a crisis situation this coming winter. Hundreds of thousands of our neighbors will struggle to cover their home heating costs. Many will find themselves without heat as the winter progresses and others may find themselves in unsafe and unhealthy situations,” pointed Joe Diamond, MASSCAP Executive Director.

To address higher than ever fuel costs, Diamond pointed that the federal government recently allocated additional fuel assistance resources. “The good news is that that the federal government has increased the fuel assistance allocation. On behalf of the people we serve we are grateful to the Governor and our entire Congressional Delegation for fighting for more fuel assistance resources,” he pointed.

LIHEAP (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program) is funded in the federal budget bill for FY 09 at \$5.1 Billion – almost double last year’s amount. The intent of the language of the Continuing Resolution is to bring home heating aid to more people. Charlie Harak of the National Consumer Law Center said “the CR allows the state to serve more low-income and moderate income people by raising the eligibility level.”

The federal resource (\$173 million) along with the \$10 million allocated by the Governor and the legislature in August, a total of \$184 million will be available this coming winter for fuel assistance. Massachusetts had had a total of \$139 M available for fuel assistance for the winter of 07 – 08.

With the added resource comes more responsibility. “With oil at \$3.00 a gallon more people are hurting more than ever before, including elderly people on fixed incomes who struggle every winter with health and safety issues and to literally stay in their homes,” Harak said.

“Elders have been worrying about fuel prices for months running up to this heating season,” said Al Norman, Executive Director of Mass Home Care. “Many elderly households cannot afford to pre-buy their fuel, and they fear what will happen if prices spike again. We need to protect the near poor if oil prices climb out of reach.”

It is estimated that given the intent of the federal budget measure – to serve more people in need at higher income levels - 10 percent to 20 percent more people in need could be served this year. All together, over 140,000 households will receive between \$1,100 and \$1,300 as a maximum benefit – an amount that will, for example cover at most a tank and one-half of oil, enough to get people through January only.

“While the benefit level is the highest we have seen in years, energy prices are at their highest and we are serving more people than ever. We very much appreciate the state’s allocation of \$10 million and we hope the Governor and legislative leaders will retain that resource,” said John Cuneo, MASSCAP President and Executive Director of Community Action Inc in Haverhill.

Cuneo said that advocates understand that the state revenues are such that the Governor is contemplating budget cuts. “Even with the very challenging budget situation we face, some programs – programs that meet emergency and basic survival needs – must be funded adequately. Fuel assistance is one of those programs.”

“The partnership between the state and federal government that resumed last year in addressing home heating needs would be made stronger by such an allocation

# Asian G.I. Jane Tells Tales of Family, Heritage and Military

By Cody Yiu

Many Asian cultures place high value on education-- conventional wisdom states that doing well in school is to do one’s parents proud. Yet, the cost of higher education can be more of a burden than a blessing to many American families. It is rare these days for one to finish college without finding oneself in some serious debt. Asian Americans are now looking to join the National Guard to get college education, and to get paid to do it.

In 2003, Jersouk Tuoy, 24, a second generation Laos-American, decided to join the Massachusetts National Guard to pursue a debt-free college education as well as a career as a police officer. But her immigrant parents did not take the news well.

“My mom said to me “You are going to die!”” said Tuoy, a five-foot-two Massachusetts native who described herself as a ‘Tomboy’ growing up.

Tuoy’s father, who was recruited by the Central Intelligence Agency to fight for the U.S. during the Vietnam War, wanted his daughter to stay at home until marriage came into the picture. But the apple doesn’t fall far away from the tree-- his daughter, too, wanted to serve this country through military service. Tuoy received her college degree within three years after joining the National Guard. Starting out her career as a part-time drug officer, Tuoy is now a full time multi-service police officer and a recruiter. She has also move up the ranks and earned the title of Staff Sergeant. Seeing how Tuoy has grown and matured in the military, her father began to open up about his experience in Vietnam.

“I never knew any of this until very recently,” Tuoy said, “I am so surprised to find out how much my dad had done for this country.” After immigrating to the United States, Tuoy’s father has been working as a construction worker and her mother as an assembly line worker. Her hard-working family managed to buy their first house in Middleborough in 1997.

By signing up with the Massachusetts National Guard, Tuoy received a handsome enlistment bonus, tuition credits for in-state colleges and universities and a monthly tax-free check in the mail. Being a recruiter, Tuoy is able to reach out to

other children of immigrants and minorities groups that are underrepresented in the army.

“The most represented group in the



Jersouk Tuoy (left) and William Missiewicz (right) spoke with the Sampan about the National Guard (Photo by Cody Yiu)

Massachusetts National Guard is Caucasian male,” said William Missiewicz, community outreach coordinator, a position that was created April this year to boost workforce diversity.

As of 2007, out of the 7,828 members of the Massachusetts National Guard, only 123 are of Asian descent; in other words, 1.3% of all males of 0.2% of females are of Asian descent, as opposed to the 3% male and 3% female within the state of Massachusetts Asian population. Not only is Tuoy one of the 0.2%, but she is also the only female Asian recruiter in Massachusetts.

Missiewicz said while it is the vision of the Massachusetts National Guard to increase these ethnic and gender ratios so that they are proportionate to those of the civilian workforce within the state of Massachusetts, the primary goal of his job is not to recruit, but to inform and educate.

“My goal is to inform people of the variety of career and education opportunities available within the National Guard,” Missiewicz said, “we have more than 150 career fields-- everything from engineering to broadcast journalism.” Once enlisted,

one can choose to pursue formal education or become an apprentice with a trade union.

“By enrolling in Our College First

Program, a new member is untouched for two years, meaning that he or she will not be mobilized for the first two years with the National Guard – which should be good news to the Asian communities,” Missiewicz said. Hoping to understand the reasons behind the low enlistment rates among the Asian population, Missiewicz has paid visits to various immigrant enclaves across Massachusetts, such as the Hmong in Lawrence and the Vietnamese in Dorchester, and is now working his way into the Chinese in Boston Chinatown.

Recent changes in immigration policy make it easier for qualified military personnel to become U.S. citizens if they choose to file a naturalization application. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services has created a streamlined process specifically for military personnel serving in active-duty status or have recently been discharged. All immigrants who have served honorably on active duty in the U.S. armed forces or as a member

of the Selected Ready Reserve on or after Sept 11 2001 are eligible to file for immediate citizenship under the special war time provisions in section 329 of the Immigration and Nationality Act. In addition, one still needs to meet the general qualifications of good moral character, knowledge of the English language, knowledge of US government and history as well attachment to the United States by taking an Oath of Allegiance to the US Constitution.

Missiewicz will be happy to talk to community groups about the Massachusetts National Guard. He can be reached at [william.missiewicz@us.army.mil](mailto:william.missiewicz@us.army.mil).



tion and made even stronger still if state fuel assistance resources were provided through a state budget line item instead of yearly supplemental budgets,” noted Cuneo.

Diamond pointed out that the challenge we face has many dimensions including safety. “We applaud the State Fire Marshall Steven Coan for his work in bringing important messages about safety to low-income people. The Department of Fire Safety’s Keep Safe-Keep Warm Campaign will help people avoid dangerous heating situations and other hazards like carbon monoxide poisoning that arise when people become more and more anxious over high heating costs,” Diamond added. For more safety information please access [www.mass.gov/dfs](http://www.mass.gov/dfs).

Low-income utility customers (those on the low-income discount rates) are very far behind on their bills and are facing termination of utility service. Over 100,000

low-income customers are more than 60 days behind in their bills, and, in the aggregate, owe over \$100 million to their electric and gas utility suppliers.

“In the end, fuel assistance helps keep people healthy and in their homes. It is a basic support program, a housing program, and a health promotion program all in one,” Diamond concluded.

Alberto Vasallo, III, will be the Master of Ceremonies for the event on October 15th. He is the Vice President/Chief Editor, El Mundo and hosts both Revista Hispana and Urban Update on Channel 7.

The rally will be in the Great Hall in the State House and start at 9:30 am. Mike Festa, Secretary of Elder Affairs will speak; the State Fire Marshall’s office will be represented; Kevin Conroy, the Chief of the Attorney General’s Business & Labor Bureau will make a presentation. Other state elected and appointed officials have been invited. A crowd of over 300 people

is expected.

The sponsors of the event include the Massachusetts Association for Community Action, Silver Legislature, Massachusetts Association of Older Americans, Massachusetts Home Care, Massachusetts Councils on Aging, Massachusetts Oil Heat Council, Massachusetts Law Reform, New England Fuel Institute, Conservation Law Foundation, Environment Northeast, United Way of Massachusetts Bay & Merrimack Valley, American Red Cross of Massachusetts Bay and National Consumer Law Center

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At the Boston Children's  
Museum, 300 Congress St.,  
Boston.  
This exhibition is devoted  
to expanding knowledge,  
understanding, and ap-  
preciation of contemporary  
China through life in Bos-  
ton's sister City, Hangzhou.  
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Admission: \$8 children (2-  
15) and senior citizens; \$10  
adults; \$2 one-year-olds;  
free for infants under 1 and  
Museum members; and \$1  
all visitors on Fridays, 5:00-  
9:00PM.  
For info, call 617-426-6500  
[www.bostonchildrensmuse-  
um.org/china](http://www.bostonchildrensmuse-<br/>um.org/china)

Stage Idols, Japanese  
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With its dramatic story-  
lines, lavish costumes and  
celebrity actors, kabuki was

the perfect inspiration for Japanese print artists. Stage Idols, Japanese Kabuki Theater presents a stunning selection of woodblock prints from PEM's collection, many on view for the first time. The exhibition features a rotating selection of over forty 19th-century prints as well as rare ka-buki-related objects, such as costumes, photographs and advertising. General museum admission: Adults \$15; seniors \$13; students \$11 866-745-1876 [www.pem.org](http://www.pem.org)

Books

Book Reading by Leslie T. Chang  
Oct 20  
7:00pm  
Porter Square Books  
25 White St, Cambridge  
617-491-2220  
In "Factory Girls: From Vil-  
lage to City in a Changing  
China," former Wall Street  
Journal Beijing correspon-  
dent and first-generation  
Chinese American Leslie  
T. Chang tells the story of  
factory workers who labor  
countless hours to provide  
us with the material goods  
we take for granted. She  
followed two young wom-  
en over the course of three  
years as they attempted to  
rise from the assembly lines  
of a sweltering industrial  
city in the Pearl River Delta.  
[www.portersquarebooks.  
com](http://www.portersquarebooks.<br/>com)

Performance

Sound of the Ocean by U  
Theatre Taiwan  
Oct 25  
8:00pm  
John Hancock Hall, 180  
Berkeley St, Boston  
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integrates ancient drum-  
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[www.chineseperformin-  
garts.net](http://www.chineseperformin-<br/>garts.net)

The Golden Lotus  
Oct 29-Nov 2  
Wed/Thu/Fri/Sat at  
8:00pm, Sat & Sun at  
2:00pm at Smith College,  
Mendenhall Center for the  
Performing Arts, Theatre 14,  
Northampton.

Celebrated Chinese director and writer Wang Yan-song will direct he world premiere of his new play, The Golden Lotus, based on a classical Chinese novel, Jin Ping Mei, from the late Ming Dynasty. Play reinterprets many of the book's characters, including Golden Lotus—beautiful, cold, scheming adulteress; Ping'er—pure, calm, loving wife; and Wu Song—up-right, unflappable heroic tiger slayer. While explor-ing sexual politics and gender roles in traditional Chinese society, the play is also an allegory of hu-man corruption whose characters grapple with love and seduction, loyalty and treachery, ambition and revenge—and ghostly intervention. Tickets: \$8, \$5 students & seniors. For info call 413-585-2787 or visit [www.smith.edu/smitharts](http://www.smith.edu/smitharts)

Film

Boston Asian American  
Film Festival  
The festival includes 20  
films and videos, 13 of  
which will be Boston pre-  
mieres; 9 screening events;  
8 venues; 8 of the film-  
makers in attendance; and  
21 community presenting  
partners. The complete list  
of screenings and films are  
available at: [aarw.org/baaff2008](http://aarw.org/baaff2008)

Featured Films and Videos  
Saturday, October 18, 8pm  
Planet B-Boy  
2007 | 95 mins | Docu-  
mentary  
Director: Benson Lee  
BCNC/Josiah Quincy  
School, Chinatown

Sunday, Oct 19 6:00pm  
Hollywood Chinese: The  
Chinese in American  
Feature Films  
2007 | 90 mins | Docu-  
mentary  
Director: Arthur Dong  
Museum of Fine Arts

Monday, Oct 20, 7:00pm  
WOMYN'S NIGHT  
The Grace Lee Project |  
Documentary  
Director: Grace Lee  
Simmons College/Paresky  
Conference Center

Wednesday, Oct 22, 7pm  
Kissing Cousins

Q&A after screening with producer, Manish Goyal 2007 | 98 mins | Comedy Director: Aryn Kaderali MIT/Room 26-100

Thursday, October 23, 7pm  
IMMIGRANT RIGHTS ARE  
HUMAN RIGHTS  
Straight Refugees | Docu-  
mentary  
Director: Ian White  
Location TBA

Saturday, October 25 2pm  
Vincent Who?  
Q&A with filmmaker and  
activist Curtis Chin  
2008 | 48 mins | Docu-  
mentary  
Directors: Tony Lam and  
Curtis Chin  
Northeastern Univer-  
sity/220 Dockser Hall, 65  
Forsyth St.

Saturday, Oct 25, 8:00pm  
West 32nd  
2007 | 86 mins | Drama  
Director: Michael Kang  
Harvard University/  
Boylston Hall- Fong Audi-  
torium

Sunday, Oct 26 at 5:30pm  
Santa Mesa  
Q&A with Producer, Phil  
Lam  
2007 | 82 mins | Drama  
Director: Ron Morales  
The Brattle Theatre

Shorts  
Monday, Oct 20, 7:00pm  
WOMYN'S NIGHT  
Too Much Plaid | Dra-  
matic Comedy  
Director: Caroline Le (will  
be present)  
Simmons College/Paresky  
Conference Center

Thursday, Oct 23, 7:00pm  
IMMIGRANT RIGHTS ARE  
HUMAN RIGHTS  
Look Again | Action-  
Drama  
Director: Jennifer Lin (will  
be present)  
Help Save Maryland From  
What? | Documentary  
Directors: Eric Byler & An-  
nabel Park  
Location TBA

Friday, Oct 24, 8:00pm  
GOOD THINGS COME IN  
SHORT PACKAGES  
2006-2008 | 95 mins | 9  
Shorts  
Q&A with three of the di-  
rectors follow this screening  
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Please email letters of interest and resume to [chsneboston@gmail.com](mailto:chsneboston@gmail.com) or  
fax: 617-338-9339

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## 旅遊專欄

# 驚嘆之旅—— 華裔青年 北極行回憶錄



圖：北極生態照。(李寶欣攝)

作者 李寶欣 (Mabel Lee)

今年的夏天，我和一班來自世界各地的人，有機會參與一個環境保護的組織——學生北極考察團 (Student on Ice) 到北極去。我們聚集在加拿大的首都渥太華，參與的人有來自法國，奧地利，匈牙利，墨西哥和少數美國的學生。不同的年齡，不同國籍的人，一起的探索陌生的北極。

我們這一群人懷有渴望的心情，登上斯利斯卡號 (Lyubov Orlova)，開始我們的2週之旅。

醒來的第二天，在極度寒冷的天氣下，我們增加了額外的毯子。每一餐好的自助餐是船上的人為我們提供。很多時後在船上，我感覺到自己身體跟隨船的搖曳。有一天，我們到Hantsch島去，一個極少人到過的地方，那裡有很多不同的鳥類。我們看到Billed Murre，一種只在北極地區的常見的鳥類和Guillemots, kitty Wakes等。

看到附近的有冰山，不禁使我聯想起坦尼克號被冰山撞破一景，原來冰山真的是可以那麼大的！美麗的景色，讓我們能夠拍攝到不少出色的照片。

我們每一天有機會來到了不同的地方，同時之前也會有特別的講座，讓我們可以首先認識北極野生動物和其環境生態，看到之時，便可以更加清楚及了解。在後來北極的幾天，我們的視線被山大霧籠罩，但隨後我們可以看到海豹在海冰(see Ice)上。我們目睹一種類似於彩虹，沒有顏色，由霧形成的霧虹(fogbow)，也一嚐到海冰味道是非常的鹹！

第三天，船過了北極圈，我們也作第一次的著陸，到山上遠足。可是島嶼上充滿了巨大的石頭和岩石，令遠足和攀登非常困難。在路上，岩石間有一些植物，工作人員說我們可以試吃。其中一種稱為 Mountain sorrow 的果子，味道似是青蘋果。不少學生徒步上山的時後，採摘路旁的植物和果子來吃。當我們到達高山，山越高，我們感到更加的熱。眺望山頂景色，有如置身在是天堂，是一種天外有天的感覺。

另一天，我們到了北極的一個社區Qikirtajuaq，去了解人民生活和北極地區被環境污染的問題。在北極，我們看到可愛的北極熊在攀登上山，像加勒比般清澈的藍綠色的海水，美麗燦爛的冰川，山脈，鯨魚，海豹，海象及瀑布。但是冰川融化變成了瀑布，我也親眼看見。氣候變化，影響全球氣候變暖，破壞了美麗的大自然環境。

這次一生難忘的北極行，一個大開眼界經驗，我覺得我在此旅程中也成長了。不單是對遙遠，寒冷北極的大自然，有了生活上解生活；對於環保，同樣地，有新的定義。能夠和北極大自然親密的生活2個星期，體驗到氣候變化及冰川融化對氣候環境的影響及破壞性，環境環保，確實是大家非常需要關心的問題。我們生活日常的消耗和浪費這麼多，我們必須改變我們的生活方式，更加對環境問題的重視。

透過此行，希望帶來一個訊息，希望讀者可以更加關注環境問題，使我們的世界變得更美好。

李寶欣為華美福利會青年會議成員之一，目前就讀波士頓拉丁學校十

## 移民資訊

## 特殊人才定義

美國移民法包括親屬移民和職業移民。其中職業移民又可分為五類，即第一優先（其中包括特殊人才、傑出教師和研究員、跨國公司經理）、第二優先（即具有碩士學位以上的專業人士）、第三先（即具有學士學位的專業人士、具有兩年經驗的技術工人以及不到兩年經驗的技術工人）、第四優先（包括宗教人士在內的特殊移民）、第五先，即為大家耳熟能詳的投資移民。

在這五類先中，第二類和第三類一般都需要先申請勞工證，待勞工證批准之候才能申請移民。其他類別都可直接申請移民。

### 一、特殊人才

特殊人才 (EXTRAORDINARY ABILITY) 為第一優先中的第一類。移民法第203(B)(1)(A)款規定，凡特殊人才應具有如下條件中的三項：

- 1、獲得過國際或國內的專業獎項；
- 2、屬於專業協會的會員，其如何資格經過國際知名專家評定；
- 3、專業雜誌或其他媒介曾對其專業成就有過介紹。這裡介紹文章應該注明標題、出版日期、作者，如系外語，應譯為英語；
- 4、曾經評審過本專業或相關專業的學術作品（如帶博士生、參加博士論文答辯等）；
- 5、對其從事的專業有學術等方面的貢獻；
- 6、出版或發表過專業作品（書、論文等）；
- 7、藝術作品、專業設計作品參加國際大展；

- 8、擔任過專業協會的領導職務；
- 9、領取高額工資；
- 10、在表演藝術方面取得商業性的成功。

凡具有以上三條者，不必辦理勞工證，即可直接申請職業移民。而且，這一類別的簽證一直有名額，不必等待排期。更重要的是，凡符合“特殊人才”條件者，不必有雇主，即可申請。

但是，申請人必須證明在移民美國之後將繼續從事本專業的工作。根據移民上訴法庭的一個案例，申請人可提供如下文件加以證明：

- 1、未來美國雇主的信函，說明將僱用申請人；
- 2、僱傭合同；
- 3、申請人詳細說明其工作計劃。

### 二、杰出人才

相對於特殊人才，杰出教師和研究人員的申請則需符合如下條件：

- 1、申請人須是某一學科國際公認的杰出人才；
- 2、具有至少三年的教學經驗或研究經驗；
- 3、來美就任終身教授的教職；
- 4、或在大學從事研究工作；
- 5、或者在一般性公司從事研究工作，該公司應雇有至少三人以上的全職研究人員，并你證明所從事的研究有一定的學術價值。

根據移民法，申請人如果證明符合杰出教授或研究人員的條件，必須出具文件證明符合如下六項條件中的兩項：

- 1、因其專業研究成果而獲得主要獎勵；
- 2、高級學術團體會員；
- 3、關於申請人學術成果的報道材料；
- 4、評審其他同類或相關專業研究人員的工作；
- 5、專業領域內的獨特建樹；
- 6、專著或論文。

與特殊人才最為不同的是，特殊人才不需要有雇主，申請人可以自己出面申請，而只需證明申請人在移民美國之後將繼續從事本專業的工作，而杰出教授和研究人員則必須由雇主（大學、研究所或公司）出面申請。

但從另一方面來說，特殊人才是指那些世界上的出類拔萃之輩，各個專業研究領域內的頂尖人士，對於已經獲得教職或研究職務的中青年教授或研究人員來說，杰出人才申請可能更為實際一些。

以傑出教授或研究人員的資格申請綠卡，也不必通過勞工證，因此一般來說可在一年內獲得綠卡。

### 三、國家利益豁免

#### (一) 何謂“國家利益豁免”

所謂“國家利益豁免”，是指具有碩士學位以上或具有特殊能力 (EXCEPTIONAL ABILITY) 的申請人，如能證明其移民美國符合美國國家利益，則不必由雇主出面，甚至不必有雇主，直接向移民局申請移民。

不過，移民法中對“國家利益”並沒有詳細的定義。目前許多“國家利益豁免”的申請皆發軔於1992年的一個移民局上訴法庭的案例。在那個案例中，移民局上訴法庭列舉了七項可資參考的因素：

- 1、促進美國經濟；
- 2、促進美國工人的工資和工作條件；
- 3、促進美國兒童和貧窮工人的教育於訓練；
- 4、促進美國的醫療；
- 5、為美國青、老年人或窮人提供更多低廉住房；
- 6、促進美國環境保護；
- 7、美國政府有關部門出面申請。

由於這七項因素都比較籠統，移民局採取“個案處理”的方式來審查有關申請。

#### (二) 什麼樣的條件符合“國家利益豁免”

根據移民局最近透露，移民局的工作人員在審查“國家利益豁免”的申請時，以下情況有利於申請獲得最好批准：

- (1) 有關申請人專業成就的報道；
- (2) 申請人發表的作品；
- (3) 已經批准的專利，并有文件證明這些專利發明之後已經應用或出售給企業。



求職資訊

美國中醫教育介紹

·美國中醫教育現況

中國傳統中醫藥學早在18世紀後期就隨華人與美貿易和移民赴美而傳入美國，經過了美國醫藥人員近2個世紀的不斷努力實踐至今，有了很大地發展。中醫藥學受到美國各國的普遍重視，尤其是近年來對中醫藥和針灸針麻競相開展臨床應用和原理的研究進展迅速，並且取得舉世矚目的豐碩成果。

在美國舊金山、洛杉磯、紐約等華僑集中的地方一直有中醫藥和針灸開業流傳，過去在一段較長的時間內並未引起美國公眾和醫學界的足夠重視。直至1971年兩名美國記者Suow和Reston,四名美國醫生White,Diamond、Rosen和Sidel訪問我國後發表了關於針灸和針麻的情況報道多篇，才引起了美國公眾和醫界的興趣與重視，特別是1972年美國總統尼克松訪華，在美國掀起了”中國熱”、”中醫熱”、”針灸熱”，成為中醫藥學在美發揚光大的黃金時代。

·中醫藥治病的合法性

美國共有50個州，其中有9個州政府較早通過立法承認應用針灸方法治病的合法性，依次是內華達州(Nevada)、加利福尼亞州(California)、佛羅尼達州(Florida)、新墨西哥州(New Mexico)、紐約州(New York)、馬里蘭州(Maryland)、俄勒岡州(Oregon)、德克薩斯州(Texas)和夏威夷州(Hawaii)。近年來陸續還有些州政府立法承認。在紐約(New York)、舊金山(San Francisco)和洛杉磯(Los Angeles)等地，住有華人各數十萬，所以針灸師、中醫師、中藥店也就應運而生，比比皆是。獲得執照的針灸師在紐約超過100多名，在加州則超過2000餘名。

根據美國針灸和東方醫學資格委員會(NCCAOM)的統計，現在全美有41個州允許執照針灸師開業。美國執照針灸師的組成主要有四大部份：經過300學時訓練的美國西醫，修讀三年制美國針灸學校的畢業生，來自中國的中醫院校畢業生，還有一些經過中醫訓練的中國西醫醫生。

中醫在美國不受重視的現象近年來正在逐漸改變。從中藥市場來看，美國的中藥市場方興未艾。美國每年花幾千萬美金進口中藥。美國藥品市場上，以中藥為主要成份的藥品產值有上百億美元。美國的製藥廠生產了許多含中草藥成份的藥品，比如Confidence公司的產品Aller 24，治療花粉過敏症就很有效。還有用於營養保健的人參製品等也很暢銷。由於中醫針灸的功效在美國被越來越多的人所重視，一些美國正骨醫生和腳科醫生雖沒受過完整的中醫訓練，也有用針灸治病的權利。

按照美國食品和醫藥管理局(FDA)的規定，中藥不是藥品，而是作為食品補充成份。開中藥的中醫師不需要專業執照的認可，誰都可以開藥方。沒有藥方也可以在中藥材鋪買到中藥。一些中藥批發公司從中國大陸、台灣、香港等地進貨，再賣給藥材店或者開業

的中醫。

·中醫藥學術團體

美國中醫藥及針灸界群眾性學術團體很多，比較著名的有加州針灸師執照協會，美國東方針灸醫學協會，世界針灸結合研究會，美國針灸學會，加州針灸學會，中醫藥聯合會，會址在紐約。在洛杉磯還設有立夫中醫基金會。

中醫進入美國的初期階段是20世紀的70年代。這個時期美國的中醫教育多局限於診所裏的師帶徒形式。到80年代，美國開始出現了小規模的中醫學院，此後，中醫學院的數量和規模迅速發展。90年代，在中醫學院全面發展的基礎上，中醫教育開始走進了著名醫學院的課堂，走進了西醫醫院和大的醫療中心，並且越來越多地被列入西醫師繼續教育的課程。1996年，美國國立衛生研究院(NIH)在全國的替代醫學研究中心設立了中醫博士後專案。

·美國的中醫大學教育

美國的中醫教育目前的如下4種形式：

- 1.中醫學院；
- 2.醫學院裏的中醫教育；
- 3.西醫師的中醫繼續教育課程；
- 4.NIH中醫博士後專案。

從上世紀80年代初開始出現小規模的中醫學院後，美國的中醫學院迅速地發展起來，目前已成為培養美國中醫、針灸師的主要途徑。據不完全統計，從80年代至今短短的20多年裏，美國已有80所中醫學院，而且其數量還在增加。這些中醫學院的名稱各不相同，有的叫college或institute，有的叫school，有的稱為中醫學院或針灸學院，有的稱為東方醫學院或中華醫科大學。這些中醫學院總共每年有大約2000名畢業生。學院的規模大小不一，各校的學生數在400~500名左右，主要集中在加州、麻州和紐約地區；中等規模的學生數在200~300名左右，主要分佈在中部、西部和南部。小規模的學生數則有10~100名不等，遍佈美國各州。

美國加州經政府教委正式批准的共有16所，主要分佈在舊金山(San Francisco)、沃克蘭(Okland)、柏克力(Berkeley)、洛杉磯(Los Angeles)、聖塔克魯茲(Santa Cruz)等地，可以提供中英文雙語授課。

美國的中醫藥院校學制一般2~3年，2~3年中要修完2000~3000個學時的理論課程(包括中醫和現代醫學)和完成500~800個學時的臨床實踐。一般中醫學院均有供學生臨床訓練的基地，部分學院還可安排學生到中國的中醫院作短期的臨床實習以接觸更多的病例。3年下來，平均費用大約需25000美元。中醫部分的教材大都是由中國高等中醫院校統編教材翻譯過來的。

近年美國也開始出現一些較好的英文教材可供選用。現代醫學部分的教材則選用美國醫學院所用的教材。中醫部分的教師主要來自中國，近年來不少中醫學院也聘請美國中醫學院的畢業生充

實師資。現代醫學部分的教師則來自美國的醫學院或醫院。絕大部分的教師均為業餘或兼職教師，一般用英文教學，極少部分用中英文雙語教學。學生上課時間也非常靈活，可選擇全日、傍晚或周末上課，修滿所需學分即可畢業。所設課程和學時為：生物學、生理學、病理學、解剖學、營養學、維生素學、心理學、化學、物理學等共400學時；醫學史、醫學術語共30學時；臨床科學、臨床內科學、藥理學、心肺復蘇術共128學時；中醫內科學、針灸學、解剖生理學、針刺技術、指壓、氣功及東方傳統運動等課程共660學時，中藥學300學時，專業實踐管理及針灸有關的醫學倫理學30學時；臨床實習共800學時，總共2348學時。

美國有中醫研究機構，主要科研課題為中醫證候術語規範化的電腦分析檢索。美國立衛生研究院從1970年起就廣泛收集世界各地有關中醫中藥針灸的文獻，1972年專門成立了一個”針刺療法特別委員會”，翻譯分析這些文獻，瞭解各地研究情況，組織學術交流和考察，1973年就開了一次針灸療法研究學術會議。目前美國有26個醫療中心從事針灸研究，至少有200多個研究專案。

中醫學院開設的課程主要有：中醫基礎理論、中醫診斷學、中醫經絡學、腧穴學、針灸治療學、針刺技術、中醫推拿、中藥學、方劑學、氣功、太極等以及現代醫學的解剖、生理、生化、病理、藥理、體格檢查、實驗室檢查、心電圖、超聲技術、放射學等。這些課程有的設為必修課，有的設為選修課。

中醫學院學生的人學資格的一般要求是有2年的大學學歷，或高中畢業並已修完一定學分的現代醫學課程，託福考試成績在500分以上。學生入學前的情況各不相同，大部分是以前從事其他行業而後又學中醫，並非人人都有醫學背景。從學習的動機來說，有的學生是為了從事中醫行業，有的則純粹是出於興趣。除了期末考試外，中醫學院還舉行一次畢業考試，畢業考試包括基礎理論和臨床操作兩部分，有的學院允許學生撰寫畢業論文代替畢業考試。

學生畢業後必須通過全國針灸和東方醫學委員會(NCCAOM)的資格鑒定考試或州針灸師資格考試後，才可向所在州申請執照、開業行醫。但是，並非所有中醫學院的畢業生都有資格參加NCCAOM的執照考試。目前美國有一個全國性的評估組織，負責評估美國中醫學院的中醫教學質量，該組織叫”全國針灸及中醫院校資格鑒定委員會”，它按照14項基本要求評定各中醫學院頒發的中醫文憑。到目前為止，該組織還只承認全美約80所大大小小的中醫學院中的30所中醫學院頒發的中醫文憑，亦即只有這30所中醫學院的畢業生有資格參加NCCAOM的執照考試。

這些遍佈美國各州的中醫學院，在美國普及和發展中醫的過程中發揮了重要作用，它們已成為美國中醫、針灸師的最主要來源。

·美國醫學院中的中醫學科教育

從上世紀90年代開始，美國的著名大學如哈佛大學、耶魯大學、斯坦福大學、康奈爾大學、加州大學等的醫學院相繼開設了中醫課程，中醫教育迅速走進全美的醫學院課堂。哈佛大學醫學院

於1993年開設替代醫學課程，剛開始作為選修課，隨後改為必修課。1997年，美國公共衛生協會(APHA)和美國醫學院協會(AAMC)相繼專門成立了替代醫學特別工作小組，鼓勵所有醫學院的學生瞭解並學習替代醫學知識。根據哈佛大學醫學院替代醫學研究中心1998年對美國125所醫學院中的117所作的調查，117所醫學院中的75所(占64%)有提供必修課或選修課的替代醫學課程。其中31%的課程由家庭醫學系提供，14%的課程由醫學系或內科學系提供。教學課程主要包括中醫的針灸和中藥療法、以及西方的替代醫學如脊椎按摩(chiropractic)和同類療法(homeopathy)等。教學的形式主要有講座、從業者演示及病人現場診治等。中醫課程在醫學院裏的開設為中醫在美國主流社會的普及和讓美國的西醫醫生瞭解中醫發揮了重要作用，並在很大程度上避免了西醫對中醫的排斥，從而幫助了美國中醫的發展。

·美國西醫師的中醫課程繼續教育

90年代開始，中醫課程被越來越多地納入美國各地主辦的西醫繼續教育課程，並幾乎成為其中必不可少的一部分和搶手的熱門課程。近幾年來，哈佛大學醫學院替代醫學中心舉辦的包括針灸、中藥、推拿，以及同類療法、脊椎按摩等的替代醫學繼續教育課程已在美國產生巨大的影響力。這個課程每期一般4~5天，學費大約800美元。每期都吸引全美各地大量的西醫師前來參加。近年來，美國的一些知名大學如哈佛大學、加州大學和AMSC國際教育中心專為西醫師開設醫療針灸課程(Medical Acupuncture Course for Physicians)。一般每期為6~9個月，上課時間為300小時，學生畢業後可在其臨床上使用針灸療法。

·美國NIH的中醫博士後教育

1996年，美國國立衛生研究院NIH設立了替代醫學博士後專案，這些專案於每年的4月、8月和11月接受申請，鼓勵美國醫生進行高水準的替代醫學研究。針灸和中藥在這些專案中占很大比重。這些專案的主要執行機構集中在NCCAOM的國家替代醫學研究中心，參與者絕大部分是持有美國西醫執照的醫生。哈佛大學醫學院替代醫學中心每年招收2~3名替代醫學博士後，進行中醫及其他替代醫學研究，在美國產生很大的影響。

·中醫藥院校和研究機構

中醫藥期刊、書籍在美國中醫藥英文期刊和書籍很多，據初步統計約有160多種，其中以針灸著作最多。中國所編著，外文出版社出版的《Essentials of Chinese Acupuncture》被公認為較好。美國人正在編寫更為全面系統的中醫術語學(T.C.M.Terminology)。中醫藥期刊除了相應的各研究機構和協會期刊外，尚有紐約州立大學主編的《Comparative Medicine,East/West》及由加州Felton出版的《美國針灸雜誌》質量較高。1984年洛杉磯出版了《國際中華醫藥雜誌》，主要刊載中醫藥針灸論文，水平還好。此外，還有小型刊物多種，如《氣功雙月刊》、《身心醫學雙月刊》等。

(文章取自美國國際商務會員中心)



## 個人理財

## 理財問答

作者 Michael C. Tow

問：我有一個用按揭貸款購買的房子，現在我有足夠的現金來支付這筆貸款，我該怎麼做？

答：假如有人說有一種債務是好的，那一定是住宅按揭貸款，這有幾個原因：一個是目前的住房抵押貸款利率非常低。你們中許多人的固定利率鎖定在5或6%。這是歷史上最低的利率。另外對於住宅按揭貸款，你還可獲得利息減低和扣稅。

不過，雖然住宅按揭貸款有諸多好處，我想對你來說，債務總是愈少愈好。如果你有足夠的錢來支付你的按揭貸款又不會造成別的困境，我想把它還清將是個好主意。現在存款和股市的收益率都很低，它們很難抵消5 或6%的按揭貸款利率。

問：我丈夫和我已經結婚好幾年了，我們現正考慮買房子。但我們的信用分數不是很好。我們已設法節省了約10% 的房款作為首期付款，現在是買房的良好時機嗎？

答：買房子是一件大事，我贊賞你們的努力並節省下一些錢作為首期付款。但隨著近期信貸緊縮，按揭貸款的發放已更為保守。許多信用分數低於20% 或更低的人很難得到合理的按揭利率。我想你最好繼續儲蓄爭取達到房

款的20% 作為首期付款，同時在工作中設法減低你的信用分數。

我也建議您和您的丈夫坐下來與一個銀行或按揭經紀人談談。他們應能告訴你可能得到什麼樣的按揭和利率。

問：我能贈與別人多大的金額而不涉及贈與稅？（Ricky L., Boston, MA）

答：這要看你贈送給誰。如果是你的妻子或配偶就沒有金額限制，您可以送給她或他而不會有贈與稅的後果。這就是所謂的婚姻扣減。對於別人，則有每人\$12000或一對夫婦\$24000的限額。但這不包括學費，醫療費用以及作慈善用途的禮物。

如果你有什麼問題或題目想要我在以後的文章中加以討論，請發電子郵件：mtow@newbostonfinancial.com

Michael C. Tow，財務規劃師，New Boston Financial主席，他通過FINRA/SIPC的成員公司—聯邦金融網絡公司提供證券和諮詢服務，是一名註冊投資顧問。

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## 節日介紹

## 萬聖節由來



圖：麻州一戶住家的萬聖節戶外擺設。

萬聖節(Halloween)是在每年的十月三十一日，當天晚上打扮得「鬼」模「鬼」樣，愈嚇人愈好。小孩子則忙著挨家挨戶要糖果，而且不忘說句「Trick or treat」(給糖吃，不然就搗蛋)。

萬聖節究竟怎麼來的？其實在天主教會裡面，十一月一日是諸聖節(All Saints Day)，隔天十一月二日則為萬靈節(All Souls Day，或譯為追思亡者節)，可以說是萬聖節的起源。

天主教會將一些生前具有超高德性的信徒封為聖人，以表彰那些信徒，並立為其他信徒所遵循的模範。但因為具有非凡德性的信徒其實不少，對於那些沒沒無聞的人來說，教會未將其立為聖

人，好像有點不公平，所以在諸聖節那天，紀念所有被教會冊封的聖人及應該被封為聖人卻未被封聖的信徒。

其實，早在西元前數世紀，凱爾特人(Celts，居住在蘇格蘭、威爾斯及愛爾蘭等地)便在十月三十一日的時候，慶祝一個名為「Samhain」的節日。因為在十月底，活人世界跟死人世界之間的界線會變得模糊，因此死人的靈魂很容易進入活人的世界，跟我們農曆七月開鬼門的傳說很像。在那一天，大家會穿著奇裝異服，在外面遊行，希望能把外面的孤魂野鬼給嚇跑。

至於南瓜燈的由來，與愛爾蘭的一個傳說有關。相傳古時候有個人名叫Jack，一天到晚喝醉酒。有一天大概又喝醉了，竟然將撒旦哄到樹上，又叫撒旦在樹上刻了一個十字架，結果撒旦被困在樹上下不來。後來Jack就跟撒旦談條件，如果撒旦能保證他死後不會進地獄，就會把撒旦弄下來，撒旦果真答應。然而他不入地獄，卻也進不了天堂，只好在黑暗世界中不停地遊蕩。撒旦給他一個大頭菜挖空做成的燈籠，裡面放著炭火，讓他在黑暗的世界中能夠找到路。

這種燈籠稱為Jack-o-Lantern，愛爾蘭人在慶祝萬聖節時，都會提這種燈籠。本來是用大頭菜(turnip)做的，後來愛爾蘭人移民到美國之後，發現用南瓜來雕刻更加容易，所以大頭菜燈就變成了南瓜燈。

至於Halloween這個字的意思，是從All Hallows Eve(Hallows指聖人)而來，即指十一月一日諸聖節的前一天晚上。

## 健康問答

## 健康問答論壇

問：糖尿病的病癥有哪些？我要如何得知自己是否患有糖尿病？

答：糖尿病現在正在逐漸變成一個常見病和多發病，它在美國西裔、非洲裔和西班牙裔的民眾公認是一個公認的常見病，它現在在亞裔的民眾中，開始變成一個多發病。

比較特別的是糖尿病常常見於肥胖的西裔病人身上，瘦人卻很少有糖尿病，不少統計數據顯示，西裔病人往往在BMI（身體肥胖指數）達到30以上

才患上糖尿病，但許多亞裔病人常常還沒有到達肥胖的程度，卻已經表現出糖尿病的以症狀。逸今，為什麼亞裔病人比西裔病人容易得糖尿病還不是很清楚，但從這現象上觀察，似乎亞裔人種比西裔，甚至非洲裔的後代更難耐肥胖。

糖尿病是一種“慢性”病，其最初的症狀往往隱匿的，只有很少一部分病人表現出突發性的多食，多飲，多尿

和體重減少的症狀，大部分病人都是在體格檢查，血液化驗時才被診斷為糖尿病。糖尿病的診斷標準是空腹（禁食10小時后）血糖高於126mg/dl，在中國國內的單位是7.0 mmol/L。隨機抽血化驗，如果血糖高於200（mg/dl），（或11.1 mmol/L）也可以用來診斷糖尿病。

如果你仔細詢問糖尿病病人的症狀，他們往往會說，他們常有口渴，喜飲的習慣，和多尿夜尿的症狀。不少病人在血糖波動的時候還會伴有視覺模糊的症狀。

在患上糖尿多年以後，病人會體驗到下肢麻木有針刺隱痛的感覺。當然，糖尿病的症狀還有許多，但大部分都不是十分特別，易被忽視，許多表

現，像易倦，體乏，容易感冒，多汗，等等，這些徵狀常被誤認是與肥胖有關。

如果懷疑自己是否患有糖尿病，最簡單的方法就是給你的家庭醫生約一個門診，讓醫生給你進行一個早晨空腹血糖測試，結果既快又明確。早日診斷，及早治療會減少很多併發症。

林震一醫生為內分泌學家，服務於昆士醫療中心糖尿病中心。林醫師在美國及海外的多所頂尖大學和醫院接受過專業的培訓，主要的研究方向是糖尿病和當今其他威脅人類生命的疾病，如有任何有關醫療的問題有需要找林醫生，請致電(617)376-4013。



柯德文殯儀館

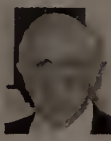
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Tak Chiu Joseph Yeung  
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120 KINGSTON STREET  
ARTICLE 85 DEMOLITION DELAY金士頓街12號  
第85條拆遷拖延Meeting will take place on Monday,  
October 20th 2008 at 6:00 PM  
Hosted by the Chinatown Neighborhood Council  
90 Tyler Street, Boston, MA 02111會議時間：2008年10月20日星期一下午6時  
主辦者：華埠鄰里理事會  
地點：波士頓泰勒街90號

Project Proponent: Hudson Group North America LLC

Project Description: 120 Kingston Street, located in Boston's Chinatown. The developer plans to construct a 24 story mixed-use building with 147 dwelling units and 95 parking spaces. As part of the proposal, the proponent is partnering with the Chinese Economic Development Council (CEDC) to develop a 12 story, 48 residential unit affordable housing development located at 12 Oxford Street in the Chinatown Neighborhood. Construction will require the demolition of the remnant Dainty Dot Building, located on the 120 Kingston Street site. The public is invited to attend a presentation by the developer and express their opinions on the proposed demolition of the building.

工程提倡者：哈德森集團北美公司

項目描述：位於波士頓華埠金士頓街12號。開發商計劃建造一座24層商住兩用建設，包含147間住宅單位和95個停車位。此工程提案中其一發展為與中國經濟發展局（CEDC）合夥建造一座包含48個可負擔得起的住宅單位的12層樓。此樓位於華埠牛津街12號。歡迎民眾出席此建設承辦會議，踴躍表達您對此將拆除建設的意見

Comments to: The Boston Landmarks Commission  
Boston City Hall, Room 805  
Boston, MA 02201任何意見歡迎來信至：  
波士頓地標委員會（地址如左）



電影欣賞

波士頓亞美電影節  
十月十八日首映

HOLLYWOOD  
CHINESE

The Chinese in America Feature Film



【本報訊】亞裔資源中心(Asian American Resource Workshop)將於十月十八日至二十六日主辦波士頓亞美電影節(The Boston Asian American Film Festival)，放映二十部電影。

十月十八日(週六)晚上八點將在波士頓華埠的昆士小學(885 Washington St.)放映Benson Lee2007年自編自導的作品開幕片為《街舞開戰(Planet B-Boy)》。

十月十九日(週日)晚上六點將在波士頓美術博物館(MFA, 465 Huntington Avenue, Boston)放映曾奕田(Arthur Dong)執導的《好萊塢華人(Hollywood Chinese: The Chinese in American Feature Films)》。

十月二十日(週一)晚上將為《婦女之夜(WOMYN'S NIGHT)》，在Simmons College的Linda K. Paresky會議中心放映。晚上七點起，放映數部短片。Emerson College的學生Caroline Le於今年六月拍成的《付出太多(Too Much Plaid)》。

十月二十二日(週三)晚上七點，在MIT Room 26-100室，放映Amyn Kaderali執導的親吻表親(Kissing Cousins))。

十月二十三日(週四)晚上放映《移民的權力就是人權夜(IMMIGRANT RIGHTS ARE HUMAN RIGHTS

NIGHT)》。放映場地暫時還未決定。當晚七點，放映Jennifer Lin2008年編導製作，長七分鐘的動作短片《再看看(Look Again)》，探討已不合時宜的移民法。Eric Byler及Annabel Park編導，長十分鐘的紀錄短片，《把馬里蘭救出什麼(Help Save Maryland From What?)》。Ian White拍製，描述柬埔寨遭遣解出境者的2006年紀錄片《純粹難民(Straight Refugees)》。

十月二十四日(週五)為「短片日」，將放映九部短片。

十月二十五日(週六)，預定在下午放映2008年拍成的《誰是陳果仁(Vincent Who?)》。放映地點未定。

十月二十五日(週六)晚上八點，在哈佛大學Boylston Hall-Fong Auditorium放映Michael Kang執導，2007年拍成，談紐約地下世界犯罪情況的劇情片《三十二西街(West 32nd)》。

十月二十六日(週日)下午五點半，在劍橋市哈佛廣場的Brattle戲院，放映長八十二分鐘，2007年的劇情片《聖塔梅莎(Santa Mesa)》。這部以馬來西亞人為主題，談家庭傳統價值的影片，由Ron Morales執導，Louise Lovegrove及Karin Chien製片。

波士頓亞美電影節查詢詳情，請上網<http://aarw.org/baaff2008/>。

福利資訊

什麼是失業金？

失業保險金是在1935年正當美國進入經濟衰退時設立，當時主要是提供暫時的幫助給數百萬計的失業人士，其次是穩定當時社會的經濟。發展至今日，這項計劃已經成功地幫助無數人士渡過難關。

這個保險金計劃是聯邦政府的項目，通過每一個州的失業局提供服務。由於每個州都有所不同，所以每個州政府跟據聯邦政府的指引，再定出該個州的法律。故此，不同的州就可能有不同的規定。申請人必須乎合該州的條件才合資格申請。

在麻省，失業總局是位於19 Staniford Street Downtown Boston。任何顏色的地鐵都可以到達。另外，在華埠210 South Street Boston亦設有辦事處，方便市民接受服務。除失業金之外，失業局更設立就業網，提供就業及培訓方面等服務。

有很多人以為失業金是一種福利或救濟，所以在有需要的時候也堅持不願意申請。

事實上，失業金是一種保險計劃，是專為一些被遣散的僱員而設，這些僱員並不包括因私人理由而自願離職者或犯錯被解僱的人士。在全國，大部份的州，包括麻省（祇有三個州例外）都是以過去所報的收入來計算出可領取的金額及周數。僱主亦跟據僱員的收入而為僱員投保。在下一期，我會為大家講解計算來方法。

從1978年開始，失業金成為一項要付稅的收入，在1994年的12月後，領取失業金的人士更可選擇預先扣除或在填寫報稅單時一起計算。但是如果是

雖要補稅的話，亦可能被稅局罰款。各位可以向報稅專業人士查詢。所有接受失業金的人士都會在一月卅一日前收到一份1099G報稅表格，內容包括在上一年所收到的失業金總額，及已扣除的聯邦及州稅等。所有內容都應該報在報稅單上。

近年來，美國受到次按的影響，經濟欠佳，失業率提高，布殊總統在08年7月7日簽署一項延長領取失業金的議案，通過在07年5月29日後已領完失業金而又未尋找到工作的人士，獲得延長領取失業金。在麻省，已領完30周金額的人士，可獲得9個星期的延期。而領完較短周數的人士，失業局有另行計算延長方法。所有合資格人士都會收到失業局的通知。這項政策到09年3月29日為止。

剛才講過失業金是一項保險金，是為一些被遣散的僱員而設。這可算是打工人士的權利，但是，在領取失業金的期間，亦有義務遵守以下的規定：

第一：隨時可以接受工作。包括舊僱主通知你返回原來的公司工作等。

第二：必須活躍地尋找工作。領取失業金的人士必須在每星期以2種方法尋找3份工作。方法包括填寫申請表，打電話與職業介紹所聯絡及查詢等。失業局會給你一個表格，將每星期找工作的紀錄填好，以備抽查。如被發現犯規人士，須賠償已領取的失業金。請大家緊記。每2個星期，申請人都要回答相關的問題，才可獲發失業金。

最後想提醒各位，在領取失業金的期間，如要外遊或已找到工作等，亦必須盡快通知失業局。以便作出適當的調整。

(文章由亞太三菱鏡提供)

青年園地

新學年的一封信



作者 趙燕彤 (Amy Zhao)  
波士頓拉丁學校 十年級

又到了每年的這個時候，你明白我說的什麼意思。九月，所有孩子們都將返回學校。夏天總是那麼匆匆而過。新的學年開始時總有很多事要操心。

作為波士頓拉丁學校(Boston Latin School)的高二學生，我理解中學生們(包括初中和高中)都承受著從學校和家庭的許多壓力。高中生更甚。

在學校他們要擔心遲到和可能受到被留校處罰。新轉學的學生要熟悉學校周圍環境，避免走失。這到校的第一個月將是相當緊張的。

我知道每當你的父母，特別是亞裔父母，鼓勵你取得好分數時你受到的壓力。我母親就曾這樣鼓勵過我去獲取榮譽高分，她說“假如你努力了，但成績是C，那是可以的；但要是你因偷懶而得了C，那是不可原諒的。”很多家長也是這樣說的。

他們為什麼要你去獲取優秀高分？其實都是為了你們自己。高分將決定你們是否能考上頂尖大學或者你們希望的大學。你們現在所做的一切都是為了你們自己的將來。

雖然有這些壓力，但只要你很好地計劃和利用好你的時間，你還是會得到休息的。你的努力將最終得到回報。這個回報就是上好的大學和你一生的成功。總之，你的未來掌握在你自己手中。祝你努力，過好新學年。

(陳公權 編譯)



Asian Community  
Development Corporation

亞美社區發展協會

38 Oak Street, Boston MA 02111 (信義大廈/The Metropolitan)

第一次購買房屋者學習班 (粵語課程)  
FIRST TIME HOMEBUYER WORKSHOP  
(in Cantonese) - Nov 1 & 2, 10AM-3PM

2008年11月2日與3日，上午10點至下午3點

第一次購買房屋者學習班邀請的報告人員將包括貸款、不動產經紀人員、房屋檢查、保險公司代表人員、精通地產買賣律師。課程中詳細提供的資訊將會幫助您了解有關第一次購買房屋者：

- ✓ 步驟進屋主的過程：最好的房屋選擇、編列計算、了解信用貸款選擇
- ✓ 有關利率最低的特殊貸款的計畫
- ✓ 低價房屋之訊息及申請方式
- ✓ 過戶費及首期款的助金...等等訊息

課程結束後，您還獲得一張由波士頓市政府發出的證明書這張證明書對於第一次購買房屋者是極重要的。所以請現在就報名參加第一次購買房屋者學習班！

參加者應先報名登記 Amy 董小姐 For more information, please call (617) 482-2380 ext. 205 or e-mail [chop@asiancdc.org](mailto:chop@asiancdc.org) today!

Sign up today!

FIRST TIME HOMEBUYER EDUCATION WORKSHOP features guest speakers including: Mortgage Originator, Real Estate Broker, Home Inspector, Insurance agent, and Real Estate Attorney. They will assist potential homebuyers in learning all aspects of the homebuying process:

- ✓ Steps in the Homebuying process, including finding best housing options, creating a budget, preparing your credit, and choosing the right mortgage;
- ✓ Learn about special loan programs;
- ✓ Learn how about affordable housing opportunities

Learn how to apply for the BCHI funds for down payments or closing cost assistance.



## 麻州新聞

麻州十月開始實施  
新的車檢方案及系統

【本報訊】自十月一日開始，麻州實施新的車檢方案及系統。這一系統將減少檢測時間，增加安全檢查的內容。對於檢查不過且面臨高額修車費的民眾，可以申請為期一年的「貧困豁免」，而1996年以前出廠的車輛將可避免廢氣排放檢測。

麻州監理處(Registry of Motor Vehicles)與聯邦環境保護署聯合授權帕森商業技術公司在麻州一千四百個汽車檢查點安裝這套系統，並且安裝下一代的排氣和安全設備。

在新的方案下，沒有通過車檢的汽車車主將會有60天的時間修理汽車。如果需要花大錢修車的車主可以申請「貧困豁免」。一旦批准，車主可得到一次性，一年的標籤，它允許車主在一年之內將車修好。

麻州將停止對1996年以前出廠的汽車進行排氣檢查。根據麻州的估計，這一檢查每年大約占440萬被檢查車輛的15%。從排氣管排出車煙的車不能通過檢查。

新的方案要求1996年以後的車和新型的客車、卡車、休旅車(SUV)及新型的中型汽車每年要經過現場排氣診斷檢查，也叫OBD (On-Board Diagnostics emissions testing)。這些車會配置一套系統與電腦連線以便於檢查。新的車檢方案收費價格仍保持在每輛車29元，其中1.74元 支付給帕森公司，4.76元支付給麻州，提供檢查服務的車行得到22.5元。

新的車檢方案可上網查詢www.mass.gov/vehiclecheck，或撥免費電話：866-941-6277。

\$5元；團體票九折。售票處電話：877-548-3237，網上購票：www.BackBayEventCenter.com(無手續費)。查詢譚嘉陵：781-259-8195，www.ChinesePerformingArts.net。

## · 中美潔淨科技研討會

紐英倫中華資訊網路協會(NECINA)將於本月18日(周六)上午8時30分至下午1時30分，在Chelmsford鎮Radisson Hotel (10 Independence Drive, Chelmsford, MA)，舉辦首屆「中美潔淨科技研討會暨NECINA潔淨科技論壇(NCTF)成立大會」，研討會上將邀請專家學者演講。此次研討會演講者包括：Boston-Power創始人和執行長Christina Lampe-Onnerud；Canadian Solar的財務長和副總裁Arthur Chien；Solasta Inc.創始人之一，也是Boston College物理系教授Zhifeng Ren；QGEN創始人和執行長Wael Almazeedi；專注於投資傳統和替代能源新技術的Bremar Energy Ventures之Jiong Ma；K&L Gates LLP律師事務所的Paul Stimers等。研討會詳情和報名，可上網協網站http://www.NECINA.org，或電郵潔淨科技論壇主席錢毅：yi.qian@necina.org。研討會免費，但參加者須事前報名。

上午10時至11時30分會有昆士醫療中心的注院護士來到免費為老人家檢驗血壓及血糖。除此之外，昆士醫療中心更會定期有注院華裔醫生於華樂耆年中心免費為老人家提供中文健康講座，提供如何治療及預防各種疾病的知識。

首當其衝的將會有昆士醫療中心的資深糖尿病及內分泌專科醫生林震一醫生於十月十五號上午10時30分進行一個糖尿病醫療講座。歡迎來臨參與去了解更多有關糖尿病及其醫療方法，免費茶點招待。如有興趣參與，請與華樂耆年中心關倩儀小姐聯絡：(617)471-9354。

## 波士頓簡訊

## · 讀書講座

波士頓公立圖書館於十月三十日(週四)下午二時半至三時半主辦作者余華的《活著》讀書講座。地點於：總館研究圖書館一樓會議室(Research Library, 1st Floor, Conference Room)。楊慶儀(Caroline Young)，陳貴英(Kay Chen) 電話617-536-5400分機2339。

波士頓公立圖書總館：地鐵綠線Copley Square站下車即見圖書館。

## · 法拍屋竅門座談

新英格蘭大波士頓台灣商會於10月19日(週日)下午2點至5點舉辦法拍屋竅門座談，主講人許淑馨、簡月娥和胡美惠。地點在牛頓市僑教中心(90 Lincoln St)。參觀團下午三點出發，報名許欽俊(Jim Hsu)：781-235-4191。

## · 廣東音藝研究社廣東音藝研究社

廣東音藝研究社將於10月25日(週六)下午一點至五點在華埠昆士小學禮堂演出重演《折子戲》，入場免費。聯絡溫陳美月：617-312-3030。

## · 《優人神鼓》演出

中華藝術基金會主辦將於10月25日(週六)晚間8點在波士頓John Hancock Hall演出《優人神鼓》。門票為\$35、\$25；學生及長者優待

## 昆市簡訊

· 昆士醫療中心與華樂耆年中心聯手合作為昆士耆英辦社會健康活動

今年十月十四號開始，昆士醫療中心與華樂耆年中心聯手合作，由南岸老人服務處贊助去為到南岸地區及昆士的亞裔華人提供一系列的社會健康活動。

首先在十月十四號開始每星期二於華樂耆年中心會有專人為到老人家免費提供翻譯信件及社會服務轉介服務。其後接著於十月十五號上午9時30分至10時30分，及以後每個月第二個星期三，

麻州114位移民在  
反幫派行動中逮捕

【本報訊】十月中進行的全國反街頭黑幫行動中，美國移民及海關執法局(ICE)執法人員與聯邦，麻州和地方法律執行夥伴針對街道暴力行為，共拘捕了52名盜賊以及28名相關罪犯。

在全國28個州，共有1,759人被拘捕，其中約1,500人是幫會成員，剩下的是因違反移民法規而被拘留。所有被逮捕的人都將被驅逐出境。

跨國犯罪集團已經對麻省各社區以及全美國的安全構成威脅。在美國街道和居民區有超過900宗的犯罪紀錄。這個星期，在麻省執法局的努力之下，24個不同的犯罪集團被抓拿歸案。其中包括有Tiny Rascals, Bloods, Crips, 18th Street, MS-13 and the Deuce Boys，等等。這些犯罪人員中有大部分是在美國境外犯罪活動活躍的地方出生。這次執法中所有被捕人員都有犯罪記錄，其中大部分是暴力犯罪。ICE將向推出有效的法律使執法局人員能把外國犯罪分子(包括非法和合法居民)驅趕出境。這些法律讓ICE和地方法律局聯合起來打擊威脅公共安全的犯罪人員。

近四天的行動逮捕了55名美國居民。其中包括14名非法居留人員，其中2人之前還被列入驅逐出境的名單中，其他3人被驅逐出境以後再通過非法途徑進入美國國境。55人均有犯罪記錄。犯罪記錄包括襲擊和毆打警員，用危險武器襲擊和毆打警員，盜竊，惡意破壞財物，非法闖入和其它吸毒等罪項。

聲援移民的社區人士對此種行動表示抗議，在聲明中說聯邦官員將不是罪犯集團中的鐵桿分子，而只是犯小罪的，努力工作的人們拘捕起來，作為結果他們會失去綠卡並且將被驅逐出境。

這些逮捕行動是社區保護計劃的一部份，這一計劃始於2005年，由聯邦移民局和州及地方當局聯合起來一同遏制街頭黑幫犯罪。像這次的執法行動向公眾保證ICE是把公共安全放在第一位。ICE波士頓調查辦公室的特別總務Bruce M Foucart說：「這次行動中每一個目標罪犯都有犯罪記錄，ICE與地方執法緊密關係地工作，將會把那些威脅公共安全的外國罪犯捉拿歸案。」

(陸穎賢 編譯)

## 波士頓簡訊

波士頓文華東方酒店  
10月6日正式開幕

圖：波士頓市長湯姆士曼寧諾參加10月6日的開幕剪綵儀式。(由波士頓東方酒店集團提供)

【本報訊】波士頓東方酒店集團文華東方酒店(Mandarin Oriental Hotel)於10月6日正式開幕。波士頓文華東方位於波士頓文華東方酒店位於Boylston Street與Newbury Street交界，毗鄰

名店。酒店提供一百三十六間客房及十二間套房，全由著名設計師Frank Nicholson包辦設計，結合傳統風味及高雅的亞洲氣息。

88超市關閉  
多家門市

【本報訊】88超市這個月來已經悄悄地關閉在昆士市，南區以及華埠的關閉門市。

88超市Glenn Frank的律師Glenn Frank表示，88超市預計在結下來的兩個月Allston, Malden以及Dorchester等地擴大成兩萬平方呎的大型分店。倒是新

的分店將有更多的高架，冰箱以及更大的食閣，而88超市也會減少商品數量以保持品質。



圖：位於Allston的88超級市場。



## 波士頓新聞

# 羅絲.費茨傑羅.甘迺迪綠色通道揭幕 華埠週末盛大慶祝



圖: 小女孩們等著上場表演。(照片由 © John Kennard 拍攝)



圖: 華裔雙生男孩看表演看得好開心。(照片由 © John Kennard 拍攝)



圖: 舞獅表演得到觀賞民眾的拍手叫好。(照片由 © John Kennard 拍攝)

【本報訊】波士頓的羅絲.費茨傑羅.甘迺迪綠色通道(Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Greenway)於10月4日(週日)正式揭幕。

依據綠色通道計劃的籌辦者、非牟利私人機構「羅絲.費茨傑羅.甘迺迪綠色通道管理委員會」介紹,當波士頓的「大挖掘」工程將以前地面的中央樞紐公路網轉到地下後,波士頓中心地帶的都市可用地增多了,社區及政界的熱心人士抓緊這個可貴的機會,在波士頓不同地方新建了公園、廣場、林蔭道等,將以往古老的城區連接起來,讓美麗的綠色自然環境與波士頓的城市街景相配合,打造出波士頓人文都市的新面貌。

這個從北至南佔地15英畝的公眾休

閒地帶,就是今日的綠色通道。

羅絲.費茨傑羅.甘迺迪綠色通道管理委員會主席彼得梅德(Peter Meade)及行政主任南希伯恩南(Nancy Brennan)表示,這個綠色通道計劃是受美國前總統甘迺迪的母親羅絲.費茨傑羅.甘迺迪的生平故事的啟發,為市民們提供綠色休閒環境的同時,將為波士頓的青少年提供教育及就業培訓的環境。讓波士頓保留古老城市風貌的同時,注入新的都市動力,豐富波士頓人的人文生活。

華埠公園是最南端的慶祝活動地點,上午8時30分開始便有道富銀行(State Street Bank)主辦的中國傳統國粹藝術節目。觀眾在公園中心圍成表演台,振舜太極拳會40人演練太極後,還

教授觀眾練習方法。在11點時,紐英裔中華公所主席何遠光帶領公所財政梁永基、會計師黃光野、書記劉小芸等宣布文娛表演正式開始。

鑼鼓一響,黃氏宗親會青年組醒獅表演為節目揭開序幕。一頭銀色幼獅在場中生動顯現各種神態,活潑生動的表演贏得觀眾陣陣掌聲。從早上11時到下午5時的馬拉松式表演,還有王世旺鄉土舞蹈團的中國民間舞蹈表演,廣教學校的鼓樂演奏,南派武術團的武術表演,胡清白鶴武術學院的武術和舞獅表演,興龍武術團的武術和舞獅表演,少林洪家武術學院的少林功夫表演,陳耀祥武術學院的武術表演,洪青體育會的舞獅表演,華林探腿門的武術表演,波

士頓元極舞聯誼會的集體舞。

最後還有僑聲音樂粵曲藝社的粵曲表演。

綠色通道包括四個主要的都市公園,分別是北角公園(North End)、水濱及金融區公園(Waterfront/Financial District)、度依廣場公園(Dewey Square)及中國城公園。

開幕活動分北端公園區(North End Parks)、碼頭區公園區(Wharf District Parks)、杜威廣場公園區(Dewey Square Parks)和華埠公園四個活動中心,有逾百個不同文化、音樂、藝術、武術的表演活動。

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